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ABSTRACT

This document reports the results of a study of federal aid to predominantly black colleges. The findings indicate: (1) Black colleges received 82% of their federal funds from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (DHEW) in fiscal year 1972. (2) Outside DHEW, the primary sources of federal aid to predominantly black colleges were the Department of Agriculture and the National Science Foundation. (3) More than half of all federal support to black colleges came from four Office of Education programs: Educational Opportunity Grants, National Defense Student Loans, College Work-Study, and developing institutions programs. (4) During the academic year 1972-73, the predominantly black colleges and universities enrolled 246,219 of the 9,297,789 students enrolled in institutions of higher learning. (5) Total federal support to all colleges and universities rose from $3.9 billion in 1971 to $4.4 billion in 1972. (6) Eighty-four of the predominantly black colleges received more than $1 million each in federal funds. (7) Federally funded student aid programs accounted for $104 million of all federal assistance directed to black colleges in 1972. (8) Federal funding of research and development projects at black colleges more than tripled from 1971 to 1972. (9) Federal funds for construction, facilities, and equipment decreased from $20 million in 1971 to $13 million in 1972. (MJM)

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FEDERAL AID TO PREDOMINATELY BLACK COLLEGES

During the past four years, both the proportion and amount of Federal funds going to predominately black colleges have more than doubled. In his State of the Union Message in January 1972, President Nixon projected that Federal funds reaching black colleges would exceed $200 million in Fiscal Year 1972 (FY 72). In actual fact, they received nearly $242 million, up from $171 million in 1971, from $125 million in 1970, and from $108 million in 1969.

According to an annual study, predominately black institutions enrolled 2.6 percent of all American college students in academic year 1972-73 and received 5.5 percent of Federal funds going to colleges and universities. This compares with 2.9 percent of Federal support in 1969.

The study was conducted by the Federal Interagency Committee on Education (FICE), a coordinating group which is chaired by the Assistant Secretary for Education of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (DHEW) and includes representatives of 27 Federal departments and agencies. It is the fourth in a series of annual reports on the participation of the Nation's predominately black colleges in programs funded by 18 Federal departments and agencies.

Among the findings:

- Black colleges received 82 percent of their Federal funds from DHEW in FY 72. Other colleges and universities received only 71 percent. Of the total $197 million from DHEW, the Office of Education (OE) provided $165 million, up from $118 million in FY 1971. The next largest DHEW amount came from the National Institutes of Health, which provided almost $21 million--up from $15 million in FY 71. (See table 1.)

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- Outside DHEW, the primary sources of Federal aid to predominately black colleges were the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). USDA increased its assistance (mainly in research and development funding) from $2 million in FY 71 to more than $13 million in FY 72. The National Science Foundation tripled its assistance from $3 million in FY 71 to more than $9 million in FY 72. (See table 1.)

- More than half of all Federal support to black colleges came from four OE programs:

  Educational Opportunity Grants* totaling $25 million assisted approximately 40,000 students enrolled in black colleges, and National Defense Student Loans* provided $20.4 million to more than 54,000. College Work-Study grants totaling $53 million supported an estimated 85,500. Black colleges received $31 million out of $52 million granted to developing institutions for strengthening academic, administrative, and student service programs.

- During the academic year 1972-73, in which the bulk of FY 72 Federal funds were spent, predominately black colleges and universities enrolled 246,219 of the 9,297,787 students enrolled in institutions of higher learning. (See table 2.) This was an increase of 38,000 students over 1971-72. The increases occurred mainly in public 2-year and private 4-year institutions, where enrollments went up by 20,800 and 12,000 students respectively. The proportion of Federal funds going to public and private black colleges was the same as in 1971-72.

- Total Federal support to all colleges and universities rose from $3.9 billion in FY 71 to $4.4 billion in FY 72.

- Eighty-four of the predominately black colleges, or 74 percent, received more than $1 million each in Federal funds (table 3), with Howard University receiving the most, $15,226,400 (table 4). Nationwide, less than 20 percent of all colleges and universities receive more than $1 million in Federal funds.

*Now redesignated as Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants and National Direct Student Loans.

- o Federally funded student aid programs accounted for $104 million or 43 percent of all Federal assistance directed to black colleges in FY 72. This category of aid increased by approximately $30 million over FY 71.

- o Federal funding of research and development projects at black colleges more than tripled, from $6 million in FY 71 to $22 million in FY 72.

- o Federal funds for construction, facilities, and equipment decreased from $20 million in 1971 to $13 million in 1972. This resulted from planned phaseout of these Federal programs across the board.

TABLE 1

FEDERAL AGENCIES AND PREDOMINATELY BLACK COLLEGES

Program Funds in Fiscal Year 1972

(Thousands of dollars)

	Amount Received by Black Colleges	Total, All Colleges
Agency for International Development	$ 1,500.0	$ 4,926.0
Atomic Energy Commission	210.4	2,616.0
Department of Agriculture	13,323.9	239,318.0
Department of Defense	575.3	197,555.0
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare 1/	197,078.7	3,153,574.0
Office of Education 2/ 3/	(165,184.1)	(1,466,473.0)
Social and Rehabilitation Service	(2,549.8)	(39,215.0)
Health Services and Mental Health Administration	(8,627.5)	(246,318.0)
National Institutes of Health	(20,717.3)	(1,401,568.0)
Department of Housing and Urban Development 3/	5,171.0	47,495.0
Department of Labor	4,364.4	57,332.0
Department of Justice	935.6	29,837.0
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	897.0	119,000.0
National Endowment for the Arts	135.0	1,143.0
National Endowment for the Humanities	1,257.1	20,331.0
Office of Economic Opportunity	6,513.1	40,650.0
Environmental Protection Agency	178.3	34,005.0
Veterans Administration 4/	61.9	2,446.0
National Science Foundation	9,391.8	445,431.0
TOTAL 1/	$241,593.5	$4,394,926.0

1/ Excluded from the total is the DHEW line item (Congressionally appropriated) for Howard University. This amounted to $61.3 million in FY 72. If the annual line item for Howard were included in the amount of Federal funds received by black colleges, the Federal agency total to black institutions would increase to

$302,893,500 out of a total to all institutions of higher education of $4,456,226,000.

2/ Not included in the OE total are federally guaranteed student loans from private lending institutions and subsidies paid to lending institutions. The estimated amount of subsidy payments to lending institutions for approximately 35,000 students attending black colleges was $5.2 million in FY 72. The amount of the average guaranteed student loan in FY 72 was $1,036.

3/ Not included in the OE and DHUD totals are private market construction loans obtained by colleges and universities with the help of Federal subsidies. Subsidies are included, however, since they are Federal funds received by colleges and universities. During FY 72, black colleges obtained private market loans toward construction of academic buildings totaling $26 million through OE's HEA Title VII-C Annual Interest Grant Program and private market housing loans totaling $5.2 million through DHUD's College Housing Debt Service Grant Program. Nationwide, colleges and universities obtained a total of $515 million through OE's program and $249 million through the DHUD program.

4/ By far the most benefits provided by the Veterans Administration for educational purposes are in the form of educational assistance allowances paid directly to eligible veterans and not paid to the schools. In 1972, a total of $1,954,055,000 in educational benefits was provided to 1,960,349 veterans or dependents. Included in these figures is approximately $25,964,000 paid to 20,639 veterans and dependents enrolled in predominately black colleges.

TABLE 2

FEDERAL SUPPORT TO PREDOMINATELY BLACK COLLEGES BY CONTROL AND LEVEL

ACADEMIC YEAR 1972-73

		Enrollment		Federal Funds	
	Number	Number	Percent	Amount	Percent
Private					
Two-year	10	2,570	1.05	$ 4,820,400	2.00
Four-year, University, and Professional	54	59,616	24.22	121,875,700	50.55
TOTAL (Private)	64	62,186	25.27	$126,696,100	52.55
Public					
Two-year	14	53,752	21.28	$ 16,350,900	6.79
Four-year, University, and Professional	36	130,281	52.92	98,059,600	40.67
TOTAL (Public)	50	184,033	74.20	$114,410,500	47.46
TOTAL (Public and Private)	114	246,219	100	$241,106.600	100

TABLE 3

DISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL FUNDS AMONG BLACK COLLEGES

Fiscal Year 1972

Amount of Support	Number of Institutions
More than $10 million	3
$5 million to $9.99 million	5
$1 million to $4.99 million	76
$500,000 to $999,000	12
$100,000 to $499,000	13
Less than $100,000	5
TOTAL	114

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TABLE 4

TOP TEN BLACK COLLEGE RECIPIENTS OF FEDERAL PROGRAM FUNDS

Fiscal Year 1972

Institution and Location	Amount of Support
Howard University, Washington, D.C.	$15,226,400
Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn.	12,616,600
Tuskegee Institue, Tuskegee, Ala.	10,290,100
Southern University, Baton Rouge, La.	7,125,300
North Carolina A & T State University, Greensboro	5,718,800
Bishop College, Dallas, Tex.	5,123,800
Virginia State College, Petersburg	5,089,500
Tennessee State University, Nashville	5,060,200
Spelman College, Atlanta, Ga.	4,984,700
Alabama A & M College, Normal	4,839,700
TOTAL	$76,075,100

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